

CLAIMS

We claim:

- 5 1. A method of designing and ordering equipment for
manufacture on-line, comprising:
 presenting a list of equipments to select for design on-line
 from a remote location over a computer network;
 requesting design specification information for a selected
10 equipment from the list of equipments;
 automatically generating a drawing of the selected equipment
 based on the design specification information;
 updating a manufacturing database with the design
 specification information needed for manufacturing the equipment;
15 sending the drawings to a customer for approval.

 2. The method of claim 1, further including validating the
 customer permission before the presenting.

20 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the sending includes
 electronically mailing the drawings to the customer over the
 computer network.

 4. The method of claim 1, wherein the computer network is
25 the World Wide Web.

 5. The method of claim 1, further including allowing the
 customer to initiate a purchase order for the equipment according
 to the design specification.
30 6. The method of claim 1, further including allowing the
 customer to receive the design specification at a later session.

7. The method of claim 1, further including allowing the customer to continue configuring equipment for order from a previous session.

5 8. The method of claim 1, wherein the generating a drawing includes generating separate drawings of parts comprising the equipment required for manufacturing the equipment.

10 9. The method of claim 1, wherein the generating a drawing further includes determining parts required for assembling the equipment.

15 10. The method of claim 1, wherein the generating a drawing includes computing parts information required for assembling the equipment.

20 11. The method of claim 1, wherein the updating includes updating all parts information required for assembling the equipment.

25 12. The method of claim 1, wherein the generating a drawing further includes generating a bar code to identify the drawing and printing the bar code on the drawing.

30 13. A program storage device readable by machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps of designing and ordering equipment for manufacture on-line, comprising:

 presenting a list of equipments to select for design on-line from a remote location over a computer network;

 requesting design specification information for a selected equipment from the list of equipments;

 automatically generating a drawing of the selected equipment

based on the design specification information;
updating a manufacturing database with the design
specification information used for manufacturing the equipment;
sending the drawings to a customer for approval.

5

14. A system for designing and ordering equipment for
manufacture on-line, comprising:

10 a client web browser that communicates over a network to a
remote server to initiate design and ordering of equipment for
manufacture;

a server that requests and presents information to the
client web browser, the information associated with the
equipment, the server including:

15 a configuration module that presents a list of equipments to
design to the client web browser, the configuration module
further generating equipment drawing based on the information in
response to a configuration request from the client web browser,
a mail module for transmitting the drawing over the network.

20

15. The system as claimed in claim 14, wherein the
configuration module further generates parts information and
drawings required for assembling the equipment.